

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
REQUEST FOR FILING APPLICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)  
WITHOUT FILING FEE AND/OR WITHOUT EXECUTED INVENTOR'S DECLARATION

Mail Stop Patent Application

Atty. Dkt. 550-537

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: March 18, 2004

This is a request for filing a new PATENT APPLICATION under Rule 53(b) entitled:

**DATA PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR DETERMINING A PROCESSING PATH TO PERFORM A DATA  
PROCESSING OPERATION ON INPUT DATA ELEMENTS**

without a filing fee and/or without an executed inventor's oath/declaration.

This application is made by the below identified inventor(s). Attached hereto are the following papers:

- ☐ Newly executed Declaration, ☐ Copy of Declaration from prior application, ☒ Abstract  
☐ Please **delete** the following inventors in the continuation/division/continuation-in-part application:  
**Deleted persons:**

29 pages of specification and claims (including 22 numbered claims), and  
8 sheets of accompanying drawing/s for Figures 1 - 8.

☐ Attached is a Power of Attorney.

☐ Priority is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119 based on the following foreign applications:

Application Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed
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, respectively, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application..

☐ Certified copy(ies) of foreign application(s) is/are attached.

☐ Certified copy(ies) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ in prior application no. \_\_\_\_\_ filed \_\_\_\_\_

☐ This application claims the benefit of Provisional Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.

☐ This application is a ☐ continuation/☐ division/☐ continuation-in-part of Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.

☐ Petition filed in prior application to extend its life to insure co-pendency.

☐ The prior application is assigned to \_\_\_\_\_

☐ It is hereby requested that the Examiner consider the art cited in the above parent application(s) by applicant and/or the Examiner for the reasons stated therein. A listing of that art is attached, but pursuant to Rule 98(d) copies are not required.

☐ Applicant claims "small entity" status. ☐ "Small entity" statement attached.

☐ Please enter the attached preliminary amendment prior to calculation of filing fee:

☒ Also attached: ☒ Information Disclosure Statement; ☐ Non-Publication Request; ☐ Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission; ☐ Statement deleting Inventor(s) named in prior application; ☒ Other: PTO Form 1449 and 2 Cited References

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2.	Inventor:	Christopher	Neal	HINDS	American
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☐ See attached sheet(s) for additional inventor(s) information!!

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